

**CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING / PUBLIC HEARING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2010
CITY HALL
22710 E. COUNTRY VISTA DRIVE
6:00 P.M.**

INVOCATION

Given by Mayor Pro Tem Crump

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Mayor Van Orman, City Council and City Staff

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Van Orman called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Pro Tem Crump
Council Member Kaminskas
Council Member Owens
Council Member Romney
Council Member Schuler
Council Member Beckett
Council Member Langford

Ann Swenson, City Clerk
Doug Smith, Comm. Dev Director
Brian Asmus, Chief of Police
Sean Boutz, City Attorney
Jessica Platt, Admin Svcs Manager

AGENDA APPROVAL

Council Member Owens proposed a motion to suspend the Liberty Lake City Council Rules of Procedure during the Public Hearing to allow for citizen comments to be extended from the three-minute maximum to a 10-minute maximum, seconded by Council Member Schuler.

Mayor Pro Tem Crump moved to add an Executive Session between agenda Items 5 and 6, seconded by Council Member Langford. Mayor Pro Tem Crump then moved to approve the Agenda as modified above, seconded by Council Member Schuler. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:12 p.m., as per RCW 42.30.110(h), Mayor Van Orman called a 10-minute Executive Session to discuss personnel. At 6:25 p.m., City Attorney Sean Boutz, announced the Executive Session would continue for an additional 10 minutes. At 6:33 p.m. Mayor Van Orman called the regular meeting back to order.

SECOND READ ORDINANCE

Ann Swenson, City Clerk, read Ordinance No. 190 into the record, an Ordinance of the City of Liberty Lake, Washington Adopting a Budget for the Period of January 1, 2011 through

December 31, 2011, Appropriating Funds and Establishing Salary Schedules for Established Positions.

Mayor Pro Tem Crump moved to discuss Ordinance No. 190, seconded by Council Member Owens.

Mayor Van Orman reported additional revenue in the amount of \$140,139 has become available because of the failure of the privatization of liquor tax initiatives, the increase in levy capacity, and a halt on proposed pay raises for the mayor and city council. She then opened the floor for debate and discussion by the council members.

Council Member Owens moved to expend \$9,800 of the unanticipated revenues to be used toward the lease payment of a second police vehicle, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Crump.

Council Member Beckett made a friendly amendment to the original motion and moved that the city buy a police vehicle outright. Council Member Owens did not accept the friendly amendment.

Council Member Beckett then moved to expend \$27,000 of the unanticipated revenue to purchase a police vehicle. Council Member Schuler seconded the motion.

Council Member Romney agreed that completely financing the vehicle now would save the city money by not paying interest in the long run. Council Member Owens countered that it would be painful now to change the method of buying police cars and said she didn't see the need for it. Council Member Owens stated she believes the funding will be able to be fit into the budget in 2012. She also spoke in favor of the annual vehicle rotation.

Mayor Van Orman called for the vote to set aside the full cost to purchase a new vehicle for the Liberty Lake Police Department. Motion carried 4-3, with Mayor Pro Tem Crump and Council Members Romney, Beckett, and Schuler in favor and Council Member Owens, Langford, and Kaminskaskas opposed.

Mayor Pro Tem Crump then discussed the opportunity the end-of-year resignation by the city's Parks Superintendent provided. Council Members Owens and Schuler requested that, by the next meeting, the Mayor present Council Members a modified job description outlining all of the grounds work. The council can then review consolidation of responsibilities between the soon-to-be vacated Parks Superintendent position and the Golf Superintendent position. They asked for job title, job description, and a salary that is commensurate with newly-created position. Council also asked that the vacancy be posted on the City's website within the next two weeks.

Budget conversations then shifted to discussion of the golf pro position, addressing funding for the Liberty Lake Municipal Library, and street and capital funds.

Council Member Schuler proposed making Trailhead Golf Course whole again rather than keeping it seasonal. Mayor Pro Tem Crump moved to reinstate \$27,000 for the golf pro position making it a 12-month, benefited position, seconded by Council Member Schuler. Motion carried 4-3, with Mayor Pro Tem Crump and Council Member Owens, Schuler, and Kaminskaskas voting in favor; Council Members Romney, Beckett, and Langford opposed.

Mayor Pro Tem Crump moved to put \$21,163 into the Liberty Lake Municipal Library's budget to keep it open 40 hours per week and maintain the two full-time employees, seconded by Council Member Owens. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tem Crump proposed \$38,132 be used for utilities and insurance for the police facility and offered a motion for the same, seconded by Council Member Schuler. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tem Crump moved to add \$15,000 into the proposed 2011 budget to be used for material costs and for a fence to be installed in the back of the Liberty Lake Police Department. Materials would include a keypad system, electronic access, the fence, and gates. Council Member Langford seconded the motion, which passed 6-1, with Mayor Pro Tem Crump and Council Members Kaminskis, Schuler, Langford, Owens, and Beckett voting in favor; Council member Romney opposed.

Since no expenses are anticipated for library capital projects in 2011, Council Member Romney moved to reduce the amount of the library capital fund allocation of \$106,000 by \$50,000 and to move the \$50,000 to general fund. Council Member Owens seconded the motion. After a brief discussion, Council Member Owens made a friendly amendment to the original motion. She moved to remove the \$106,000 proposed 2011 allocation in its entirety from the library's capital, and designate \$36,000 to the street maintenance fund and \$70,000 to the street capital fund. Council Member Romney accepted the friendly amendment. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Romney moved to reduce the proposed 2011 legislative budget by \$9,000, removing the expense to print the City's newsletter, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Crump. Motion carried unanimously. Council Member Romney's motion reduces the legislative line item for postage by \$3,900 and the legislative professional services line item by \$5,100.

Council Member Romney moved to deny a proposed \$50,000 allocation for the arboretum, instead allocating the money to the capital streets fund, seconded by Council Member Schuler. After further discussion, Council Member Romney withdrew his motion.

Council Member Owens moved to include a zero-budget line item to the 2011 proposed budget for a City Administrator position, seconded by Councilmember Beckett. Motion passed 5-2, with Council Members Kaminskis, Langford, Owens, Beckett, and Romney voting in favor, Council Member Schuler and Mayor Pro Tem Crump opposed. Council Member Beckett suggested discussing reinstatement of a City Administrator during the first City Council meeting in January.

Prior to opening the public hearing, Council Member Owens moved to exercise Liberty Lake City Council Rules of Procedure provision 12.1. She moved to temporarily suspend Rule 7.2 (Timing; Representation of Public Hearing Procedures) and allow for public discussion to supersede the three-minute restriction if deemed necessary. Council Member Schuler seconded the motion. Council Member Romney made a friendly amendment to limit the testimony time to 10 minutes. Council Member Owens accepted the friendly motion. Council Member Schuler then proposed to extend the testimony time on a case-by-case basis, allowing the council to vote for a time extension of more than 10 minutes, should it so desire. Motion passed unanimously.

FINAL PUBLIC HEARING

At 8:12 p.m. Mayor Van Orman opened the public hearing.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Steve Peterson, 719 N. Lancashire, Liberty Lake, WA: conducted a PowerPoint presentation about Trailhead Golf Course entitled, "Green Space with Revenue!" He provided historical information since the City's purchase of Trailhead in 2002 and spoke about the eight years of dedicated service from the golf course staff. Mr. Peterson outlined 2003 through 2011 revenue

& expenses, talked about what the golf course has provided, suggested opportunities which Trailhead could provide in 2011 which could generate an annual revenue increase, and provided a comparison between the Mayor's proposed 2011 golf budget revenue and the revised expenses for 2011, resulting in a change of retained earnings of \$77,725. He also spoke about the work a golf superintendant could do during the winter months such as beautifying the city. He then distributed the slides of the PowerPoint presentation in addition to the markup of the Mayor's budget on page 36.

Cheryl Kilday, President & CEO, Spokane Regional CVB: asked for the council's support of the Spokane Regional CVB during budget deliberations. Ms. Kilday talked about the use of the lodging tax and Tourism Promotion Area funds. She briefly highlighted the direct benefits to Liberty Lake from the CVB Partnership. Ms. Kilday announced the City of Liberty Lake receives programming from the CVB with real costs of more than \$400,000. She asked the council members to keep in mind the investment in the CVB on behalf of the City of Liberty Lake is .009% of CVB revenues and the costs incurred to coordinate programming alone represent 3%.

Bruce Bell, 1017 N Tanglewood Lane, Liberty Lake, WA: commented that his source of information is what he has a read in the paper. He spoke of being an avid fan of Trailhead Golf Course, Mollie Thola, and Ron Knudsen and asked the council to support reopening of the course and continued employment for Ms. Thola and Mr. Knudsen. He also stated he is a homeowner in Tanglewood. He said the City has cost the Tanglewood homeowners thousands and thousands of dollars because of the "eyesore" that is on the backside of the City's maintenance building. He claimed the equipment has lowered the Tanglewood home owners' property value and asked that the equipment and debris be tended to and cleaned up.

Steve Peterson, 719 N. Lancashire, Liberty Lake, WA: proposed that when the Council decides to refill the golf pro position to refill it without retribution for any time off. He also spoke about the golf course superintendent position. Mr. Peterson highly recommended both Ms. Thola and Mr. Knudsen be reinstated with full benefits and with no interruption in service.

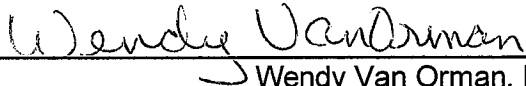
Spokane Valley Fire District, Deputy Chief Larry Rider, 10319 E. Sprague, Spokane Valley, WA: Suggested status-quo, budget-related information be provided on the City's website. He said providing the information will help citizens better understand the budget process and make the discussions less time consuming and more efficient.

At 9:18 p.m., Mayor Van Orman closed the public hearing. Mayor Pro Tem Crump moved to reinstate the Liberty Lake City Council Rules of Procedure, seconded by Council Member Owens. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

These minutes are approved on January 4, 2011.



Wendy Van Orman, Mayor
City of Liberty Lake

Ann Swenson

Notes and Transcription by Ann Swenson, City Clerk. Due to a broken amplification board in the audio system, these minutes failed to record.